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THE GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, FEB 27, 1836.

CUTTING SCIONS.

The month of February is considered the best time for cutting scions, and we hope those of our farmers who have orchards of hard, sour, worthless fruit, will not suffer the season to pass without laying in a store of the best kinds, to be inserted when the season for grafting shall arrive. In cutting scions care should be taken not only to select the best kinds of fruit, but they should also be taken from vigorous, healthy branches. The last year's growth should always be preferred, since if other parts are taken, fruit instead of wood buds may be inserted, a practice which is never advisable. When scions are growing near, or on the same farm where they are to be used, if the operation of grafting is performed as early as the season will admit, they need not be cut till wanted, and the risk of using withered or defective ones is in part prevented. The process of grafting within a few years has been so much simplified, and the general introduction of wax in the place of clay has rendered the operation so easy and certain of success,that there can be no excuse for the farmer who contents himself with imperfect fruit, when the best can be so readily commanded.

In selecting grafts, the object intended to be accomplished should be kept in view. If near a good fruit market, very early apples, or the best varieties of late winter apples, will be found the most profitable. If intended for cider, those which experience has proved to produce the richest must, and the finest flavored liquor, should be chosen. If, as we believe, the most profitable use to which orchards in general can be put, (after an ample supply of the various kinds of apples for family use,) is the fattening of swine, and the feeding of horses and other animals, for which purpose experience has fully proved they are most excellent, then sweet apples, as best adapted to this end, should be selected. There should be a constant succession of apples ripening through the fall in orchards intended for fattening animals, from the earliest that can be procured, to those of winter. Were we to name one kind of apple as more suited than another for this purpose, it would be the white sweet bough apple. Its several advantages are, that it is the earlist of our sweet apples, is large and fair, is not spreading in the branches, and therefore allows of closer planting, is a good bearer, and when in plenty will furnish a supply for a considerable time. There may be others as good, or perhaps better, but they have not fallen under our notice; all we have to say is, let our farmers suit themselves, only if they desire good fruit let them graft, and they can scarcely fail of success.

G.

SEPARATION OF FLOCKS.

Every farmer who has been, or is, a wool grower, is well aware that much of the weight and quality, and consequently value, of his wool, is depending on the state of his flock in the spring; and of course he is sensible that much care and attention is requisite to bring his flock through in good heart and condition to that season of the year. This care and attention becomes particularly necessary, when the winter like the present has been of unusual severity, totally depriving the sheep of any green food, unless provided them by the owner; and as an additional evil, in most cases completely debarring them from the desired use of water. A knowledge of these facts, however, seems to produce little practical effect on the great majority of our farmers, who with flocks increased to hundreds, pursue the same course they did when their care did not extend to as many dozens; and hence it is usually the case that in the spring severe losses are sustained among all classes of the flock, both by poverty and its usual attendant disease. In obviating these evils, and giving the whole flock what is termed an equal chance, there is no method more effectual than to divide a flock into sections,and keep them separate from each other. In addition to the fact that where large numbers of sheep are fed together, the vigorous and active ewes obtain far more than their proportion of the food intended for the whole flock; their crowding togther in large masses renders the air impure, and thus becomes one of the most frequent and fatal sources of disease. In dividing a flock, some farmers recommend a separation of them into four parts—wethers, ewes, lambs, and a hospital department consisting of the weak and sickly of all classes. Such is the course pursued by those extensive and successful wool-growers, the Messrs. Jarvis of New Hampshire; but for all practical purposes, however, at the present season of the year, unless the number in each division would be too great—from fifty to seventy being as many as ought to remain together—a separation of the flock into two parts will be sufficient: one part to consist of the wethers and ewes, and the other of the lambs and such of the other part as are evidently too weak to share equally with the first division. The lambs, and the weak ones, should there be any such, should have particular attention paid to them, as they will most commonly amply repay by their superior value any extra care bestowed. They should be fed with plenty of fine sweet hay, clover, or rowen, and occasionally receive a few turneps cut fine, a small quantity of oats, and a little salt. We have known some instances in which oats grown late, and saved with express reference to this subject, by haying and sprinkling with salt, were given in small quantities to the sheep without threshing, and with excellent effect. That farmer, however, who wishes to engage in the rearing of sheep with the greatest possible assurance of success, will find himself under the necessity of paying strict attention to the culture of roots, as furnishing to the sheep, during the latter part of the winter and spring, an indispensable substitute for their accustomed and necessary green food. Of the various kinds that have been recommended and tried for this purpose, the ruta baga undoubtedly deserves the first place, both for the quantity produced on a given piece of land, and the abundance of nutritious matter it contains. Turneps cut into suitable pieces and fed to sheep, after being occasionally sprinkled with a little salt, will have the effect of keeping them in good heart, and preventing those diseases that so frequently ensue from long continued dry food, and a confined range. Later in the season, or about three weeks before yeaning time, the ewes should be placed by themselves, and fed with an additional supply of turneps, or when these are not to be had, with a small quantity of meal made from oats and Indian corn, daily. They will thus be found in a situation to furnish milk for their young, and prevent much of the trouble which is frequently experienced by the farmer in raising his lambs. In conclusion we say to our wool-growing readers, if you have not yet properly separated your flocks, do it without delay, and we may safely promise you an ample reward for the slight additional trouble in feeding such a division may create.

G.

ON PREPARING FIRE-WOOD.

The season has arrived in which farmers commonly prepare their fire-wood; and though we have frequently proffered our admonitions on the subject, we think it probable that something more may be said to advantage.

We were pleased the other day to receive a confirmation of our opinion, from an old observant farmer. "One cord of *dry* wood for a stove," said he, is worth two cords of *green* wood; and there is, besides the actual difference in the value of the articles, a discomfort in using green wood, from which we hope that all our readers may be speedily delivered; and which a little judicious forecast would most unquestionably accomplish.

To cord up wood in the common manner in the woods or shade, will not prepare it for thorough seasoning. If it is designed for the stove, it ought to be cut early in the spring, of the proper length; and split to the requisite degree of fineness. It should be piled up on something that will keep it from the dampness of the ground; and the piles if continuous should extend north and south, so that the sun can shine into them, both in the forenoon and afternoon. If the piles extend in an east and west direction,the north side of the pile will be less seasoned. Of course we allude to piles in the open ground.

A friend of ours had a quantity of cord wood put up in the woods, but the pressure of other business at the time prevented him from hauling it home as he intended. When cold weather came on in the fall, he found it was not more

than half, seasoned; and indeed a considerable part of it is no better than green wood. We prefer wood taken directly from the stump, to that in which the sap has *soured*.

As a parting word of advice, we would say to those who have never known the pleasure and the profit of using dry wood, "TRY IT by all means;" and to those who know its value, we would say, "PERSEVERE;" and let no common obstacles prevent you from keeping on hand, a quantity sufficient to last you a whole year. There are few things on which money can be more profitably advanced; and it is even better to borrow the cash and to pay interest than to burn green or half seasoned wood.

Art of Removing Stains from Cloth.

Formerly, the art of removing stains, and restoring the original color, consisted of an almost endless number, and an undigested mass of recipes. From an ignorance of the action of the substances applied, they were often used at random, and generally with the greatest uncertainty of success. The application of chemical principles, has enabled us to adopt a more certain and systematic mode of attaining this object, which is at once simple and effectual.

This art requires *first*, a knowledge of the different substances producing stains. *Secondly*, of those substances by which stains may be removed. *Thirdly*, a knowledge of the original coloring matter of the article, of the action of the substance applied upon it, and upon the stuff, and of those substances which will re-establish the faded color.

1. Among the most common stains are those of grease, and oils generally, acids, alkalies, iron rust, sweat, fruits, &c. Some of these, as grease spots, and stains of fruit, are easily known; while some of the others are more difficult to be distinguished. These difficulties are however often in a great measure overcome, by observing the changes which are effected in the color of the stuff. Acids, for instance, are generally thus known:—They *redden* black, brown, and violet dyes, and all blue colors except Prussian blue and indigo. Yellow colors are generally rendered paler by them, except the color of annatto, which becomes orange.

Alcalies generally cause red colors to become violet, and blues to become green. Green woolen cloth is changed by them to yellow, yellow to brown, and annatto to a lively red.

Sweat consists principally of water, with a small quantity of muriate of soda and acetic acid; it therefore produces nearly the same effects as the acids generally.

2. Grease and oil spots, are removed by alkalies, soap, yelk of eggs, or by essential oils dissolved in alcohol. The most effectual mode of removing grease spots from coarse articles, or those where the color will not be injured by it, is by a solution of pearlash. In finer stuffs, ammonia is preferable, as it rapidly volatilizes and is less liable to injure the color. Grease spots on colored silk are entirely removed by scraping chalk dust upon them, and suffering it to remain a few hours, until it has absorbed the grease. Oils and grease which volatilize at a temperature sufficiently low, may be expelled by applying heat.

Stains of acids are destroyed by alkalies, and stains of alkalies by acids. Caution is necessary in applying them, that no greater quantity is used than is sufficient to neutralize the staining substance, as too great a quantity might produce an opposite evil. They must therefore be applied gradually and in small quantities at a time. For the same reason, ammonia is found best for removing acids; and the vegetable acids are the best for removing alkalies, as their action is more mild, and consequently there is less danger of their injuring the texture of the cloth.

Oxide or rust of iron, common ink spots, iron mold, and all other stains of iron, are removed by a solution of oxalic acid in water. The oxalic acid dissolves the iron without injuring in the least the texture of the stuff; and the yellow oxalate of iron which is thus produced, and which is soluble, is readily removed by washing or soaking in water. Ink spots, (tanno-gallate of iron,) upon the leaves of printed books, engravings, prints, &c. may be thus completely obliterated, without defacing the print, as the acid has no action on the printer's ink, which is colored by lamp-black. Where ink spots have been fresh, we have succeeded in restoring the paper in a very few minutes, almost to its original whiteness, with perfect ease, by applying oxalic acid and by subsequent washing; while not the slightest change was observed in the marks of the print. Old ink spots, and especially those of very black ink, are more difficult to remove.

Stains of fruit on white stuffs, are readily removed by a dilute solution of chlorine or of sulphuric acid. Sulphurous acid is perhaps still better, being less liable to injure the texture of the cloth; to apply it, the cloth is simply moistened and exposed to the vapor of the burning sulphur. Where it is practicable to use chlorine in a gaseous state, it is preferable to a solution, there being then less danger of injuring the cloth.

Compound spots are more difficult to remove; and they require different applications according to the respective natures of the component parts of the substance causing the stain. Thus, for instance, grease from wheel work, requires first that the grease should be dissolved by an alkali, and then the iron is removed by oxalic acid.

3. Where the stuffs are not white, but have been colored by dyes, those substances should be employed to remove the stain, which will not change the color of the dye. Or if this cannot be done, and the substance applied alters the color, a knowledge of those substances is necessary, which will re-establish the color. If, for instance, an alkali has been employed to remove an acid from a violet blue or red cloth, and a yellow spot remains; a solution of tin will re-establish the original color. For brown cloths so injured, a solution of sulphate of iron (or copperas) must be used. Or where spots of ink or iron would have been removed by oxalic acid, the color may be restored by an alcali, or a solution of tin. This branch of our subject is too extensive for our present limits, and those who wish to pursue the subject, we refer to works on dyeing, and that department of chemistry which relates to it.

An examination of the principles referred to above, and the application of them in a few experiments, will give an insight into the art of removing stains, which can never be acquired by mere random trials.

LOUDON'S GARDENER'S MAGAZINE.

J. C. Loudon in his Gardener's Magazine for December has given a general "*View of the progress of Gardening and Rural Improvement during the past year*," from which we present a few extracts.

Chinese Chrysanthemums.

"*Floriculture* is at present unquestionably the most flourishing department of gardening.—Even the Chinese Chrysanthemum has been subjected to British improvement, and a number of *new and beautiful varieties* have been lately raised from seeds saved at Oxford and other places in England, and in Guernsey."

This is the first notice that we have seen of this culture. In the Encyclopœdia of Plants published in 1829, it is said "It is a popular flower in China, *whence all our numerous varieties have very recently been obtained*, and chiefly through the exertions of the Horticultural Society."

Green House Plants in the Open Light.

"The superior effect produced on plants by the *direct* influence of the light, is strikingly evinced by the beautiful and luxuriant growth of those against these [flued] walls, when compared with that of the same description of plants under glass; where not only a portion of the light is excluded by the glass, but what passes through this medium is decomposed, and deprived of a large portion of its vivifying influence on the leaves."

We should not have ascribed *all* this difference to the light however: fresh air is another *element* not to be overlooked.

Cross-fertilization of Tulips.

"The principle of hybridisation by cross fecundation was known even in the time of Bradley in 1717; and though in after times, it was found to produce the most wonderful effects with regard to apples and pears, &c. yet no one seems to have thought of applying it to produce new and beautiful varieties of tulips *till within this year or two*; but on the contrary, the growers of these flowers had the extraordinary and almost unexampled patience to wait year after year, till certain self-colored seedling tulips, or breeders as they were called, from some accidental combination of favorable circumstances of soil or climate, began to vary in their colors, or as is technically termed, to break."

This is all he has thought proper to say on this subject. It would have been gratifying to us however, if he had shown more fully and clearly the advantages of the new method.

The Quinoa.

"We are not aware of any remarkable acquisitions that have been made to our culinary vegetables. A silver-skinned underground onion has lately been cultivated in the experimental garden at Inverleith; and the Quinoa (*Chenopodium Quinoa*) introduced some years ago, but only *recently brought into general notice* by Mr. Lambert who *has been most successful in its culture*, may be mentioned as a spinach plant, and one at the same time valuable for its seeds which

are used as a substitute for millet or rice. It will probably be found useful for the settlers in new countries, as the seeds are ripened within three or four months after the plant is sown; and as they require no husking or other preparation previously to their being cooked as food."

The Quinoa did not succeed well with us, partly from the ravages of the same insect which attacks the flower-buds of the Dahlia, and partly from the shortness of our seasons. It would seem however, to have become acclimated in England, so that the latter objection would not apply to that variety; and doubtless seed from that country would do better here than seed from South America, or even from Baltimore, where we procured ours.

The Horticultural Society of London.

"It is to be regretted that the pecuniary circumstances of the London Horticultural Society, have obliged them, in a great measure, to give up the culinary vegetable department of their garden. It is not that vegetables could be grown there better, or even as well as in many market gardens, for in no one garden can every description of vegetables be grown to the highest degree of perfection; but the *culture* and *proving* of culinary vegetables having been known to horticulturists every where, both at home and abroad, to be carried on in that garden, as well as the culture and proving of fruits, it became a focus to which new productions were sent from every quarter. These new productions being seen by visitors to the garden, and being reported on from time to time in the Society's *Transactions*, soon became generally known, and in consequeuce, were introduced to the seed shops, and from them into the commercial and private gardens."

Herbs pressed into Cakes.

"The mode of compressing aromatic herbs into cakes and preserving them closely wrapped up in paper till wanted for use, practiced by Mr. Lindsay, gardener to his Grace the Duke of Devonshire at Chiswick, well deserves imitation; and it might be extended to dried parsley, fennel, celery tops, and many other pot-herbs."

The Shakers of Niskayuna? have been long in the practice of pressing medicinal herbs into cakes, and we therefore conclude that it is no new discovery. *We have seen such cakes more than ten years ago;* and as it has been more than three years since *we saw* the article for sale at Thorburn's in New York, the *exportation* of the idea to England might have been easily effected.

CHINESE MULBERRY.

Does the Chinese Mulberry survive the winter in the Rochester Nursery? Is there any seedling plants in said nursery? S. P. R.

We handed the above to Mr. Rowe, who has furnished the following answer:

Dear Sir—The Chinese Mulberry is as hardy in my nursery as the White Italian. During the last severe winter I had but one plant that was killed to the ground. I had some three hundred that stood without any protection, and they were on an open and exposed situation. The ends of the small branches were damaged some, but not any more than the White Italian, standing in the same lot, and with the same exposure; and my opinion is, that the Morus multicaulis is as hardy as the White Italian. Asa Rowe.

P. S. I have no seedlings.

PLASTER OF PARIS.

Extract of a letter from a subscriber at Salina:

"In answer to O. P. Q. of East Bloomfield, you can state if you think proper, that he can procure plaster, in a pulverized state, at Isaac Lewis' mill, in the village of Syracuse, for two dollars and fifty cents per ton, and I think of the first quality. I have tried this kind by boiling, and found it to give a sulphurous smell, and the ebulition is great, and that when boiled it forms a strong cement by mixing with water. This is considered a good test, as plaster which forms the strongest cement is considered best. Last season I purchased a part of my plaster at Manlius, which is distant six miles from Syracuse, and one mile from the canal, and gave two dollars per ton."

Agricultural State Convention.

In looking over the proceedings of the State Agricultural Convention, we find the following resolutions, which were not published in our last paper:

On motion of Mr. Shepard of Cayuga, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention are due to the Hon. J. A. Dix, Secretary of State, for his very able and luminous report in relation to the geological survey of the state, made to the Legislature, Jan. 6, 1836, in pursuance of a resolution of the Assembly, April 6, 1835, and they express the hope that the Legislature will make the appropriation for the purposes recommended in said report.

On motion of Mr. McCollum, of Niagara, it was

Resolved, That such provisions be made as the Legislature shall deem expedient to encourage the growth and manufacture of Silk.

On motion of Mr. Allen of Erie,

Resolved, That this Convention recommend the introduction of elementary works on agriculture and horticulture, as reading books in our common schools.

On motion of Mr. Nash of Monroe,

Resolved, That a State Agricultural Convention be held at the Capitol in the city of Albany, on the 1st Thursday of February next, at 4 o'clock P. M. at which all persons are invited to attend, who take an interest in agricultural pursuits.

On motion of Mr. Frey of Montgomery,

Resolved, That a copy of the opening address of Judge Buel to the Convention be requested for publication; and that Mr. Carroll of Livingston, and Mr. Allen of Erie, be requested to furnish a copy of their remarks for the press.

On motion of Mr. Fuller of Onondaga,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be given to the President, for the able and dignified manner with which he has discharged the duties of the chair.

Memorial to the Legislature.

To the Legislature of the State of New York:

The Memorial of the Subscribers, inhabitants of the State of New York, assembled in Agricultural Convention at the Capitol in Albany on the 9th February, 1836, Respectfully represents:

That your memorialists consider that an acquaintance with the principles of physical or natural science, embracing the properties of soils and manures—a knowledge of the structure and functions of animals, of the diseases to which they are incident—and the modes of cure—of the principles of mechanics in their application to implements of farm labor—of the agency of heat, air, water and light in the growth of farm crops, and of new plants, their mode of culture, and use in the arts or commerce—as highly essential in the cultivators of the soil, to the successful prosecution of husbandry, in this age of general improvement. That agriculture is the great business of our state, and the main source of its prosperity—and that no means present to their minds, so likely to ensure substantial improvement in this primary branch of labor, as the establishment of a school of scientific and practical agriculture, which shall embrace the best models of practice in all the departments of rural labor. That three committees of the legislature have reported in favor of the establishment of an agricultural school, with accompanying bills providing therefor, two contemplating the establishment to be made under the auspices, and at the expense of the state and the other granting corporate powers to an association who had prayed to be incorporated for this purpose; that the latter bill passed the House of Assembly with but three dissenting votes; but that this, as well as the other bills, were not finally acted upon, by reason of the late period in the session in which they where introduced, and the press of public business. Your memorialists pray for an act of incorporation, with a restriction therein limiting the dividends to be derived from such institution to five per cent. per annum, for the above objects, and to endow such institution with such sum, and in such manner, as shall be commensurate with the great benefit to be attained therefor.

Your memorialists further represent that they are persuaded great benefits to agriculture, and to the substantial interests of the community at large, have resulted from the law of 1819, "to improve the agriculture of this state," by the stimulous which it gave to industry, and the improvements which it induced in the various branches of husbandry; and believing that a further appropriation would be alike beneficial in developing the capacies of the human mind, and of the soil, for improvement, and in augmenting the resources and revenues of the state—they respectfully solicit that an appropriation be made, with the view of exciting laudable emulation, and of rewarding those who make important discoveries in labor-saving machines, or in other departments of husbandry—who introduce new and valuable breeds of animals, plants or seeds—or who improve or extend useful methods of cultivation, and that they believe such appropriation would tend greatly to increase the resources and revenues of the state, and to promote the diffusion of useful knowledge.

And your memorialists further represent, that within the last years, an insect, denominated the grain worm, before unknown among us, has committed serious deprepations upon the wheat crop, in the north-east counties of this state; that it is progressing south and west, and threatens immense damage to this great staple product of our state, unless efficient means can be discovered to prevent its ravages: your memorialists would respectfully suggest, that the legislature offer a pecuniary reward of sufficient amount to call into action the scientific and practical talents of our citizens, for the discovery of a preventive of the evil—the reward to be withheld until the efficiency of the preventive shall be fully and satisfactorily established.

J. BUEL, President.

G. Wendell,
J. McCall,
L. Bradish,
P. Patterson, } V. Presidents.

D. S. Dickerson,
J. J. Viele, } Secretaries.

Errata.—Page 41, col. 3, line 30, for "*even*" read *over*—page 43, col. 1, line 10 from bottom, for "*aliment*" read *ailment*—page 51, col. 3, line 3 from bottom, for "*beams*" read *boards.*

Mr. Editor—I wish some of your correspondents would inform the public how that troublesome weed, Johnswort, may be destroyed, and they will much oblige the enemies of said

Weed.

COMMUNICATIONS.

LETTERS FROM A FATHER,

Living in the State of New York,

To his Son in Western Pennsylvania.

NO. IX.

Fallow Crops.

To MY SON—In books, as well as in periodical journals treating of agriculture, mention is often made of *fallow crops*. I have not learned the precise import of the phrase, nor do I know what crops are intended to be designated by it. Yet as there can be no doubt that the phrase is good English, I will venture to use it, taking care, however, to explain what I mean by it.

By fallow crops, I mean all such crops as may be sown or planted in the spring, with intent to have them come off early enough to be followed with wheat the same season, and with intent also to have them serve partially as a preparation for that crop. According to this definition, the principal fallow crops of this country are peas, barley, and oats. To these I will add clover, whether sown in the spring immediately preceding the preparation for wheat, or any time before. Potatoes and beans are good fallow crops, and corn too may be used for the same purpose, though I do not recommend this, except in some cases of peculiar necessity. Such are the principal fallow crops of this country, and out of these the farmer may, from time to time, make his selections, and thus every year receive the profits of a valuable summer crop, from grounds that are to be seeded with wheat in the fall.

The husbandry here suggested cannot fail of recommending itself to the judgment and practical regards of all sensible and judicious farmers. Its superiority to the old method of making naked summer fallows will readily be seen, inasmuch as with very little increase of labor, and perhaps no greater expense to the soil, it returns to the occupant two good crops instead of one. In your practice, it should be a general rule to plan the business of your farm so as to derive from every acre of it at least one good crop annually.

Both barley and peas are considered by the farmers in this section of the country, as excellent preparations for the wheat crop. The soil of the country too, is in general congenial to their growth, and independently of their use as preparations for wheat, they are intrinsically valuable crops. I know not whether you have cultivated these crops, or whether they are cultivated to any considerable extent in that section of the country in which you live. If they have not been sufficiently tried there, I advise you to give them a fair experiment. In relation to the manner and advantages of cultivating these crops, I have more to say, and shall probably resume the subject in one of my subsequent letters.

The oat crop is often followed with wheat, but an opinion generally prevails, that it is not so good a preparation for that crop, as either barley or peas. Undoubtedly this is the fact, and although wheat may in general be raised to good advantage after oats, yet when this is done greater care and pains must be taken to prepare the ground for wheat, after the oats come off, than when wheat is to follow either of the above mentioned crops. When it is intended to have wheat follow oats, care should be taken to sow the oats as early in the spring as possible, in order that the crop may be ready to come off early in the season. In such cases, it has been my practice to plough the ground immediately after the oats came off, and then let it rest until seed time, when the ground, after being harrowed, was ploughed again, and then harrowed a second time, in order to prepare it for receiving the seed. The subsequent processes were, to sow the seed and cover it with a harrow. I have always thought it necessary, when preparing oat ground for wheat, to till the ground very thoroughly, and sufficiently to produce a specimen of fine cultivation. Sometimes I have ploughed in the seed with a shallow furrow. Sometimes too I have ploughed the ground three times, giving it the second ploughing two or three weeks after the first. Practicing in this way, as I have through a series of many years, I have rarely failed of having good wheat after oats.

Another method, however, of preparing oat stubble for wheat is recommended, and not unlikely it is the better way. This is, to give the ground a thorough harrowing immediately after the oats come off, and then let it rest till seed time. At the time of sowing, or a little before, the ground is ploughed, and by that means all the stubble, together with the oats and weeds that had come up, is turned under, and placed where it should be, in order to be rendered the most beneficial both to the soil and to the crop. This being done, it remains only to sow the seed, and cover it with a harrow. I have never practiced in this way, yet I have scarcely a doubt that the way is a good one. Probably it is a better way than the one in which I have practiced. When this method is adopted, the harrowing immediately after the oats come off will be indispensable, in order that all the scattered oats may germinate and grow, and be ready for destruction at the time of its final tillage. I should advise to harrow twice, the second time ten days or two weeks after the first.

Clover differs in several respects from the other fallow crops, and on account of its peculiar agencies in preparing ground for other crops, it merits a distinct and particular consideration. Some remarks on the utility of clover as an improver of the soil, and as a kind of grass which, for several reasons, ought to be held in high estimation, have already been made in one of the preceding letters. We will see now what use can be made of it in relation to the culture of wheat. If you have a clover pasture, and desire to apply it to the growth of wheat, it will need no other preparation for that crop, than to be turned over, just at the time, or a little before the time, of sowing. Or if you have a clover meadow, and desire to apply it to the same use, it may be allowed to produce its first, and if you please, its second crop of clover, and after that, be prepared for wheat by simply turning over its tender clover lay. The roots of clover do not form stiff swards, as do those of other grasses. Where clover grows, the ground is always loose, friable, and mellow. It needs only to be turned over, and slightly harrowed, to be put in perfectly good order for any crop.

Not only can clover be made to supersede laborious and expensive tillage, but it can be rendered highly beneficial both to the soil and to the crop. It is supposed that the roots of clover, as they rot and undergo decomposition, make the very best of manure. It is supposed too, that the roots of clover act mechanically upon the soil in loosening its texture, and thus rendering it accessible to many known and unknown contributions from the atmosphere. But it is not by its roots alone that clover is capable of being rendered tributary to the soil. To singular advantage its tops can be applied to the same use. If your clover field, which is intended to be prepared for a wheat crop, is supposed to be deficient in the strength of its soil, and to need recruiting, then, if a pasture, let no stock graze upon it for several weeks next preceding the time when it is to be ploughed. Let the clover grow and have time to produce a good green crop. Then, at the proper time, turn this crop under, and, as an improver both of the soil and of the crop, it will be equivalent to a good dressing of manure.

It is believed by many, and I have very little doubt of the fact, that any given field, or any given part of a farm suitable for wheat, can, by the use of clover, especially if plaster can be obtained, be made to produce good crops of wheat every other year, for any indefinite period of time, and that too, not only without the least deterioration of its soil, but with its continual progressive improvement. How then is this to be done? The first requisite will be, to commence the series of crops with good tillage. The field, or part of a farm, to be set apart for a continued series of wheat crops, should in the first instance be thoroughly subdued, and tilled in the most perfect manner. This will be indispensable, for it will have an important bearing on the practicability and facilities of making a good preparation for every successive crop. The ground being thus perfectly subdued and tilled in a proper manner, sow wheat upon it, and in the spring following, sow clover seed. In the spring too, sow plaster, if it can be obtained. The wheat will come off at the appointed time, while the clover will remain and grow, and be useful the remainder of the season for pasture. The next season the clover may be pastured, perhaps till June, when it must be suffered to grow, and produce a good green crop to be turned under. Now, at the proper time, wheat is to be sown again, and the only preparation for it is to turn under this green crop. Thus you may go on, probably, through an indefinite series of years, raising wheat every other year on the same field, without detriment to its soil, and with very little expense, except that of the clover seed. I have been speaking here of things which I suppose to be practicable, but as I am not sure that the peculiar method of cultivation which has now been described, can be sustained on the principles of sound economy, I forbear to give it my decided and confident recommendation.

It has been suggested by a correspondent of the Genesee Farmer, that if clover be turned under, when its seeds, or a portion of its seeds, are in a state of maturity, it will supply seeds for another crop, which will come up plentifully in the spring, and thus supercede the expenses usually incident to reseeding. This appears to me probable. Be it as it may, the expense of

clover seed need not be felt much, if farmers will raise it for their own use.

Certain things are always essential to the successful cultivation of the wheat crop. Among these are to be reckoned good tillage and good seed, perfectly clean, without the least mixture of cockle or chess. It is important too to sow in good season, as a general rule, I should think, not later than the first week in September. Farmers here sow earlier than they did formerly, and think that by doing so, they render themselves more sure of obtaining good crops. Many sow as early as the last week in August. It has also become the practice to use more seed than was formerly supposed to be necessary. Farmers now sow from a bushel and a peck to a bushel and a half on an acre. A loss quantity of seed will be sufficient for early than for late sowing. If your wheat is subject to smut, this may easily be prevented by liming the seed, or steeping it in the lye of ashes, not very strong, or in a weak brine of salt. A Father.

New York State, January, 1836.

Cultivation of the Chinese Mulberry:

Extracts from the letter of Joseph Davenport to William Kenrick, with Remarks.—No. 2.

BY W. W. B.

The writer now comes down to the fall of 1834, and the succeeding severe winter of 1835, when a great proportion of his Chinese Mulberry trees were killed. This winter will long be remembered in the annals of horticulture, for the destruction it occasioned in different parts of our country, not of the Chinese Mulberry only, but of the peach and other more hardy trees.

4. "The fore part of the season was wet, the soil level inclining to clay, and rather muddy—the White Mulberry grew but little, and the leaves were spotted and black; the last of the season was more favorable, and the ground was constantly cultivated till the great frost near the last night in September, at which time the trees were growing nearly as fast as at any time in the season—this, in my opinion, did the mischief attributed to the last cold winter—this was the coldest night, as I have been informed, from this till the Sunday night that froze the Connecticut river, so that it could be passed on the ice on Monday morning at Hartford—water in vessels at the door of dwellings was frozen an inch thick, and all trees were injured, as I think, precisely in proportion as they were growing or frozen—were growing according to the kind and condition of the tree, fertility of the soil, as affected by heat and moisture—frozen according to the height of the place—the cold settling in low places—high places coming in contact with the current of the passing atmosphere, which maintains a more perfect equilibrium of temperature than the hollows below its course." There can be but little doubt of the truth of this opinion. It is what might reasonably he expected from the sudden transition, as in one night, from the warmth almost of summer, to the severe freezing of winter. The trees were then in full and vigorous growth, the pores and sap vessels open, the wood cousequently soft and immature, ill prepared to withstand the sudden change of temperature, and the shock occasioned by the expansion and disruption of its vessels by the action of the frost;—death was the consequence. This effect would vary according to circumstances—to the growing state of the tree, and its situation in regard to soil, elevation, &c. On the morning after this memorable frost, a small plantation of Chinese Mulberry in a neighboring garden, which were killed down mostly to the ground, looked as if a fire had passed through them.

5. "The peach, quince and mulberry, and all late growing trees, standing on sandy soil, as on Springfield hill and its vicinity, though not the lowest, and Longmeadow land—at the foot and partly up hills and mountains, *exposure varying from south to west*, as on the land descending to the south on the north side of Deerfield river in Charlemont, and many like places in this town and elsewhere, were, as I have noticed this season, *nearly and quite killed*, according to the condition of the trees and soil. *While trees on high loamy soil*, as in West Springfield, Suffield, and further south in Berlin and Middletown, *exposures from east to north, were but slightly injured*, compared with the trees nearer the river."

From this fact the writer draws the conclusion, *that a high loamy soil, with an exposure from east to north, is much more favorable for the cultivation of this tree* than a sandy soil, though elevated, with an exposure from south to west, the reasons of which he presently gives.

6. "This freeze killed all the grafted trees on the low soil, except about one-eighth of the most inferior ones, that had nearly done growing before the frost—layers, and those on their own roots, on the low soil, were principally destroyed, and in some cases roots as well as branches. But they were not the only trees injured—many of the White Mulberry trees were killed. *Trees on high loamy soil withstood the winter unprotected.* Mr. Beston thought his Chinese trees endured the winter as well as the White. Trees here being on better soil and less cultivated, fared better on one side of a field than the other. In a rich moist hollow, the Chinese were mostly killed, root and branch."

If trees thus situated on high loamy soil withstood the severe winter of 1835, there can be little doubt, that with attention to this particular in the selection of soil and situation, complete success will attend the efforts of the cultivation of this tree. It appears from these facts, that a low, moist, rich soil and situation, are the worst that could be selected, and altogether inadmissible. In such soil and situations the trees grow too luxuriantly—the wood consequently is soft and spungy; and morover, the vegetation being prolonged late in the fall, the wood does not become sufficiently ripened and matured before the cold sets in to endure the severity of the winter.

7. The writer next mentions an experiment he is now making with this tree on sandy soil, the result of which remains to be determined. He observes: "But it appears that sandy soil, judging from the present vigorous growth of those trees, and other reasons, will not rest till it has rapidly imparted all its strength to the plants upon it, and the atmosphere that it so readily admits. How trees will grow upon it after all its strength has been exhausted, remains to be seen." This experiment was instituted, the writer informs us, under the opinion he then entertained, "that the hotter and dryer the soil, the better the tree would be prepared for the winter." He however inclines now to the opinion, that a sandy soil is not the best, as will be seen in the sequel. The observations of Mr. Davenport on the choice of soil, exposure and cultivation, are worthy of particular attention. The reasons assigned why this or that exposure and soil were preferable to another, appear consistent.

8. "The growth of the tree gradually diminishes as the heat of summer abates, and gradually increases as the heat of spring advances. The great thing is to give this tree such soil, exposure, and cultivation, as will discontinue its growth with the season. This the skilful cultivator may control in a great measure as he pleases. Excessive heat and extreme cold do no harm, provided they are in their season, and the wood fully matured. When a tree is fairly frozen it is frozen, and I know not what harm there would be if then the thermometer should fall a few or even many degrees below the freezing point. It is the presence of winter and summer nearly at the same time in the fall and spring, that does the mischief. Land that is quite descending to the south and west, receives, I should think, full a third more heat from the sun in short days, and perhaps the whole season, than exposure from east to north. There nearly all the forenoon is passed before the dew is off. Exposures from south to west receive the rays nearly at right angles the remainder of the day, and no dew to obstruct." The conclusion thence to be drawn is, *that exposures from south to west are not so favorable as those from east to north.* As the greater quantity of heat they receive from the action of the sun's rays causes the trees to vegetate earlier in the spring, and thus subjects them to injury from the late spring frosts—and keeps up the vegetation later in the fall, thereby preventing the hardening of the wood before the severe autumnal frosts, and thus subjects them to injury by the severity of the winter. On the other hand, in exposures from east to north in the short days of spring and autumn, "nearly all the forenoon is passed before the dew is off," of course the soil does not become much heated; and in the afternoon, the sun having passed, his *oblique* rays exert but a feeeble influence. The trees therefore will not vegetate so early in the spring, nor so late in the fall. The consequence will be, an earlier ripening of the wood and a better preparation for the winter. The truth of this reasoning seems corrobrated by the fact before stated, that trees having this exposure on a high loamy soil, withstood the severity of the last winter, while those in a south and west exposure were very much injured.

W. W. B.

THE GRAPE VINE.

BY S. F.

I am inclined to think the grape culture will progress but slowly. That of the mulberry will take precedence. As long as farmers obtain good prices for the crops they now cultivate, they will not speedily turn their attention to one having no greater inducements than the vine, and one so little in accordance with their habits.

S. F.

UNCLE BEN.'S NOTIONS.

NUMBER TWO.

Mr. Tucker—It being a sever cold day, I concluded to pay Uncle B. another visit. "Well, Henry," said he, "have you forgot what I told you the other evening?" No, sir—least I should I wrote it down before I went to bed. "That was right—always minute every thing you consider valuable; it will strengthen your memory, assist your recollection, and invigorate your thoughts, and if you should forget the ideas, they can easily be recalled by reference to your minutes. I think I told you that I avoided extravagant expenditures in all things, and particularly in dress. In the present state of society it is necessary to pay some attention to the fashions, but never forget that it is a heavy tax you are paying to the follies of mankind, and the easier you can get along with it the better. Avoid speculations as a pestilence, which always destroys the farmer it takes possession of. Never buy any thing you do not need, no matter how cheap you can get it, nor part with a necessary article which suits you, whatever price you may be offered, and particularly the best of your breeding animils. Never keep stock or grain over year in hopes of a better price—never change your farming operations for the ups and downs of the market, but endeavor to keep steady and uniform in your operations; and as far as is practicable endeavor to make each year's product pay the annual expenses of the farm. But your first business will be to select a farm. In doing so, you may have to examine many different qualities of soil, there being all the various grades from a stiff clay to the light sand—the hard flint, which can scarcely be penetrated by the plough, to the rich alluvial which would not blunt a knife—from the wet swamp that will not support an animal, to the dry gravel which rain seldom makes wet. There is also great difference in the subsoil, (or under strata,) some being a cemented hard-pan, which resists water and the roots of all vegetation, while others are so porous and open that all the richness of the surface leeches through. In making your selections avoid all these extremes. A sandy loam, which does not partake of the clay sufficient to make it hard when it is dry, is, in my opinion, the most profitable soil; but there is very little ground so poor that proper management will not make productive, and none so rich that bad husbandry will not destroy. But I consider the subsoil of much more importance, for that you cannot change. An open bottom, which will allow the surface water to pass through, yet sufficiently retentive to prevent the richness of the soil from leaching through, is of great value to the cultivator, and particularly to the growers of wheat.

"In fencing your farm, regulate the size of the fields by the quantity of ground you have to cultivate, making sufficient in number to enable you to keep each variety of grain and grass separate, at least such as ripen at different seasons; but be very particular to avoid as much as possible having different varieties of soil in the same field, such as wet and dry, hard and soft, or stiff and light, for it causes great inconvenience in the cultivation, and much loss in the profits of the farm. It will depend much on the soil what your principal product must be. That which will yield the greatest profit without impoverishing the ground must be your staple, but endeavor to raise as great a variety as is practicable without a loss. By so doing you can adopt a regular rotation of crops, which will add much to your annual product—your income will be more uniform, not being so much affected by the change of the seasons, for if it should not be congenial to one crop, it generally will suit the other. But there is nothing which requires so much judgment in the cultivator, as to be able to decide what crop will be the most profitable on each piece of ground. So much depends on the season, the soil, its condition, and previous cultivation, that the most experienced are often at a loss. But these things you must learn by your own observation and experience. To enable you to do so, you must make a map of your farm—number the fields, 1, 2, 3, &c.—mark on the map the quantity of ground in each field; also keep a journal of your principal operations, viz: The crop raised in each field, the amount of labor bestowed upon it, and the time of performing the various operations, the amount of the crop, its value, with all the various items of expense and profit of the farm, which will enable you to determine with certainty what ought to be your principal product, what soil was best adapted to each crop, and which was the most profitable. But I fear my lesson has been so long you will not be able to remember it." Henry.

THE POTATOE.

BY T. S. P.

In looking over a volume entitled "Popular Botany, by James Main, A. L. S." printed in London in 1835, I find the following passage respecting the potatoe:

"It is a remarkable instance of what cultivation may do; and its history from the wild plant happens to be known. The potatoe is a native of the mountains of tropical America, and when found wild there, it is barely, if at all, eatable. Indeed, with the exception of one district of Nova Scotia, *it does not appear that a good potatoe for culinary purposes is grown in any part of that continent of which the plant is a native*, while in Europe this tropical plant is a highly valuable article of food."

I do not make this quotation for the purpose of offering a formal refutation of it; but merely to express my surprise that any intelligent writer should at this day be so ignorant, or possess so much national vanity, as to admit such an assertion in a work intended for the instruction of youth, and the advancement of scientific knowledge. It is about as ridiculous as the declaration of the Comte de Buffon, that every thing degenerated in America; with this aggravation, however, thatour own productions must be transported to Europe before their good qualities can be finally developed.

If the potatoes of England and Ireland are indeed superior to our own, the reason may doubtless be found in the fact, that in those countries more persevering attention has been paid to the improvement of the plant, and the best mode of culture adapted to it. Our climate and soil are, in many places, probably as favorable as those of any part of Europe. I have eaten the potatoe grown in various parts of the United States, and also that brought from Great Britain, and I can say of a truth that some of our varieties are not inferior to the foreign, to say nothing of that of our neighbor of Nova Scotia.

I will add *en passant*, that in a general way this vegetable is produced in greater abundance and of a better quality in the northern portions of our Union than it is to the South. This rule however is not without exception. Among the mountains of Virginia, and indeed in all the western district of that state, the potatoe is cultivated with the greatest success, and of a quality not to be surpassed. All who have visited the celebrated watering places of that region, will readily acknowledge that it is as mild, as farinaceous and as finely flavored, as if it had been grown even in the "Emerald" or the "Sea-girt" Isle. T. S. P.

FARMER'S CASH BOOK.

BY W. G. B.

This is the title of a book kept by all systematic merchants, in which, under the head of receipts, they enter the name of every person from whom they receive money, and the amount Received from each; and under the head Disbursements, they enter all moneys paid out by them, specifying in every instance the object for which the amount noted in each entry was paid. At the end of each month, the account is balanced, and the amount on hand is entered on a new page under the head of the Receipts as "cash on hand," and the account continued as before. The farmer and mechanic, though they handle less money, in general, than the merchant,should nevertheless be as well acquainted with their fiscal affairs. As the ultimate object of all business operations is the accumulation of money, it surely must be important that all should know the proceeds of the different branches of their labor.

The most simple and common way of keeping a cash book, I believe, is after this manner:

1836.	CASH ACCOUNT—RECEIPTS.	Dr.
Jan. 1st.	Cash on hand,	$30 45
" 3d.	John Howell, for a cow,	20 00
" 5th.	Peter How, on account,	10 00
" 15th.	Sam'l Jane, for note taken up,	25 75
" 25th.	Wm. Hall, for 4 bush. apples,	1 00
		$87 20

On the opposite page of the book, Disbursements are entered.

1836.	CASH ACCOUNT—DISBURSEMENTS.	Cr.
Jan. 1st.	D. Adams, merchant, for 10 lbs. of sugar,	$1 25
" 4th.	J. Nager, for 4 days work,	2 50
" 6th.	Wm. Dunning, shoemaker, for boots,	5 00
" 10th.	D. Adams, for goods, as per bill,	8 75
" 20th.	Robt. Hall,blacksmith, for work,	1 56
" 25th.	Josiah Slade, on settlement,	5 00
" 31st.	Cash on hand,	63 14
		$87 20

Every farmer should be able to accout for every shilling received by him, with all the precision and exactness he would exhibit in his account were he acting as an administrator upon the estate of another. Could men be induced thus to account, in writing, albeit to themselves, for all they receive, it strikes me they would indulge themselves less in the extravagance and luxury of the day, as the footing of their own account

would more palpably show them the cost of their vices and follies, than all of the moral essays of the wise and good. W. G. B.

Geneva, Cayuga co. Feb. 13, 1836.

Management of Silk Worms.

BY JAMES HOUGHTON.

Mr. Tucker—According to your request, I now hand you a statement of what I consider the best mode of raising the silk worm for beginners, with the necessary cautions. In the first place, I would caution against raising too many the first season, as any person will gain as much experience for future operations by raising 5,000 as they will by 500,000, and I am sure an advantage will arise in having too few rather than too many, as every one commencing a new employment must have something to learn.

Tables made of seasoned rough pine boards will answer, with old newspapers laid thereon, standing from the walls, with the legs standing in small tin pans, which are to be kept filled with water. Mine were at the top 9 inches in diameter, and 3¼ deep. This will effectually prevent being troubled with the black ants, that have often been stated as being very destructive to the worm, and will also guard against mice. This method is far preferable to the use of lemon juice, which I have seen recommended, as once done answers for the life of the worms. This precaution is quite necessary, where any of these ants are about. When the season arrives, place the eggs on one of these tables, and keep only as many as will hatch out in 24 hours, and if the others are destroyed at once, so much the better. It will save a vast deal of trouble to have a spontaneous hatching as near as possible, as in the different moultings they require no food, which is distinguished by the holding up of the head and the torpid appearance of the worm, of which full instructions are given, as also for their spinning, in Cobb's Manual, and in the Silk Culturist, published in Hartford, (Conn.) for 50 cents a year, and which ought to be in the hands of every one intending to pursue this business.

Persons intending to raise 5,000 worms ought to be supplied with 10,000 eggs, and will in this manner insure a spontaneous hatching of the half. Yours respectfully,

James Houghton.

Carthage, Feb. 10, 1836.

WRITING INK.

BY SPECTATOR.

Mr. Tucker—I have used more or less ink for many years, and think the following recipe the best that I now know of—if you think it worthy of a place in your useful paper, you may give it an insertion:

Half an ounce of Logwood, rasped or cut fine,
One ounce of Nutgalls,
One ounce of Gum Arabic,
Half an ounce of Coperas,
One teaspoonful of Cloves.

Let them all be ground fine together, then put them to half of a pint of warm rain-water, and shake them well together for use.

Wishing, if any of your readers know of a better recipe, to do likewise, publish it. If the above should be too pale, evaporate it slowly until it is right. Spectator.

Brighton, Jan. 30, 1836.

State Agricultural Society.

At a meeting of the State Agricultural Society, at the capitol, in Albany on the 11th February, the following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year:

Archibald McIntyre, President.
Anthony Van Bergen, 1st Vice-Presidont.
Ziba A. Leland, 2d " "
John P. Beekman, 3d " "
Philip Viele, 4th " "
Jesse Buel, Corresponding Secretary.
John Keyes Page, Recording do.
Caleb N. Bement, Treasurer.

Executive Com.:
Alex. Walsh,
John Townsend,
Erastus Corning,
Samuel Cheever,
O. R. Van Benthusen,
Joab Center,
John B. Duane,
John B. Yates,
John H. Steel,

List of Payments

For the Farmer from Feb. 12, *to Feb.* 26, 1836.

For vol. 6.
Peter Harris.
Sereno Clark.
Aaron E. Pettee.
Charles Gifford,
Christopher Roffee.
Jesse Ambler.
Edward Foulk.
John F. Styer.
Lyman Mills.
Zera Burr.
Thomas Briggs.
Samuel Garrett.
J. L. Eastman.
Samuel D. Chapin.
George Dixon.
J. B. Carey.
Asahel Dolbear.
James T. Wood.
Henry Wood.
George H. Burwell.
P. N. Mead.
Edwin Scholfield.
Moses Gray.
D. S. Earl.
David Lynch.
Levi Robbins, Jr.
Theodore Cushing.
O. P. Waite.
Sawens & Strong.
Alexander Kelsey.
Daniel Birdsall.
James Christie.
Aaron Thorp.
F. S. Wicker.
J. Keyes Page.
Wm. R. Macy.
Richard Puckren.
Alex. Robinson.
J. T. Gilbert.
Wm. Slade.
Luther Tuller.
John Rooks.
Daniel Michener.
Zenus Blish.
J. C. Garden.
Fred. Huddleston.
Cyrenus Smalley.
M. Long.

For vol. 5.
Hiram Pratt.
Orlando Allen.
E. Ensign.
J. McKnight.
J. Goodell.
T. P. Powers.
Joseph Cox.
Isaac Cox.
Warham Whitney.
Jerediah Horsford.
S. A. Richardson.
J. & J. Weld.
Elias Avery.

First half vol. 6.
B. Fairman.
Calvin Barber.
Ezra Durham.

For vols. 4 *&* 5.
Allen Ayrault.
James Wadsworth.

For vols. 5 *&* 6.
R. P. Hunt.
F. S. Wicker.

Calvin Brainard, for Vols. 4, 5, 6 and 7.
J. Clark, for Vol. 5 and half of 6.
Jno. M. Sterling, for Vols. 2, 3, 4 and 5.
F. Harkness, half of Vol. 2, and Vols. 3, 4 & 5.
Andrew Poucher, half of Vol. 5.
J. A. Irving, for Vol. 5 and half of 6.
Martin O. Coe, from July, 1835, to July, 1836.
John Proctor, last half of Vol. 5 and Vol. 6.
Wm. T. Cuyler, for Vol. 4.
Job Roberts, last half of Vol. 6.
Richard Ashby, last half of Vol. 5.

Clover Seed.

RED CLOVER of the different varieties, and from different sources, *White Dutch Clover*, *Lucerne*, or *Dutch Clover*, affording 3 or 4 crops in a season, and some other foreign varieties, constantly for sale at the Rochester Seed Store by

REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

January 28, 1836. jan 30–ar3wf4w

WILLIAM ATKINSON, REAL ESTATE BROKER,

17, *Exchange-street, Rochester.*

BUYS and sells Farms and City Property on commission, and attends to the collection of Mortgages.

☞ Several valuable Farms for sale.

February, 1836 feb 20f6m*

Fresh White Mulberry Seed.

100 POUNDS of *Genuine White Mulberry Seed*, raised in Connecticut, and warranted the growth of 1835. For sale at the sign of the "GOOD SAMARITAN."

Hartford, Conn., Jan. 5, 1836. jan 16–f4t*

Grass Seed.

CONSTANTLY for sale at the Rochester Seed Stoke, *Timothy* or *Spear*, *Red Top* or *Herds*, *Orchard* or *Cocksfoot*, *English Ray*, *Pacey's Perennial Rye*, *Italian Perennial Rye*, and several other foreign grasses, most of which have been successfully tried in this country.

N. B. Cash paid for Grass Seed, Beans, Peas, &c. REYNOLDS & BATEHAM,

No. 5, Arcade Hall.

January 28, 1836. jan 30–ar3wf4w

1000,000 Silk Worm Eggs,

FOR SALE.

THE subscriber having promised to supply so many individuals who called to see his worms at work last year, and he having already sold so many, deems it proper to advise those who have not yet received any, and are intending to have some, that they must order them at once, or possibly they will be disappointed, the demand being so great, and this being the proper season to forward them. They are sold for 25 cents a thousand. Orders enclosing the amount will be punctually attended to.

JAMES HOUGHTON.

Rochester, Jan. 7, 1836. j7rf3m

Rural Library.

THIS is a Monthly Periodical of 32 large octave pages, devoted to the republication of the best works on Agriculture, Gardening, and Domestic Economy. The plan embraces abridgments and compilations, as well as entire works; and for a very trifling sum will insure every subscriber a valuable library, that would, on the ordinary plan, cost ten times the amount. It will be embellished with numerous engravings. The second number will soon be ready for delivery at the Agricultural Seed Store, 102 Barclay-street, New-York.

Feb. 1836.—f4t H. HUXLEY & CO.

The Silk Culturist, & Farmer's MANUAL.

"THE object of this publication is to disseminate a thorough knowledge of the cultivation of the Mulberry Tree in all its varieties, the rearing of Silk Worms, the production of Cocoons, and the reeling of silk in the most approved method."

Itwill also contain interesting matter on Agricultural subjects generally.

Published monthly at Hartford, Conn., by the Hartford County Silk Society, at 50 cents per year, in advauce. Subscriptions received at the Rochester Seed Store, by

jnly 25 REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

Monroe Horticultural Garden & NURSERY.

THE subscriber offers to the public a choice selection of Fruit Trees, of French, German, English and American varieties, consisting of Apples, Pears, Plums, Peaches, Cherries, Apricots, Nectarines, Quinces, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Strawberries, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Hardy Roses, Vines, Creepers, Herbaceous Perennial Plants, Bulbous Roots, &c. &c.

ALSO—A few hundred of the Morus Multicaulis, or Chinese Mulberry, the White Italian Mulberry by the hunbred or thousand, Grape Vines of both native and foreign varieties, mosty of large size, for sale by the single vine, hundred or thousand, at reduced prices. The subscriber has a large collection of Green-House Plants of choice and select varieties, and in good condition.

☞ Orders for *Mr.* Rowe's Nursery received by the Publisher of this paper.

Catalogues will be sent to those who wish them, gratis, or may be had by calling at the office of the Genesee Farmer. ASA ROWE.

Greece, *Monroe co.* N. Y. Sept. 18, 1834.

From the New England Farmer.

Culture of Corn.

Mr. Fessenden.—About two years since I gave you some account of two experiments in planting corn. The result of one went to show that our cornfields do not usually have a sufficient stock of plants; and the other, that nothing is gained by giving the hills a greater distance one way than the other. On the latter point perhaps the practice of farmers in this vicinity is different from that of others. Here we see fields planted, with rows from two and a half to three and a half feet distant, and hills from four to six or seven feet distant in the row, thereby making the distance nearly, and in some instances more, than double one way than it is the other. The origin or reason of the practice I have never learned, but see no objection to it, except the additional labor necessary in cultivation. I believe it is moderately getting out of use. Respecting the first, that of stocking the ground, I have since made further experiments both in regard to distance between hills, and number of stalks in a hill, and if you think its details may be useful or interesting to your readers, it is at your service.

Corn is usually planted here in hills, and the general impression among farmers, I believe, is, that without reference to the distance between hills, it is a matter of little consequence whether there be three or four stalks in a hill. Perhaps the majority prefer four stalks, yet some good farmers give the preference to three, and three are probably as many as our cornfields will usually average, if the missing hills are taken into the account.

The ground selected for the experiment, was a light sandy loam, that had been in pasture perhaps thirty years. After ploughing and rolling, about twenty cart buck loads to the acre, of coarse barnyard manure were spread on the furrows and harrowed in. Five parcels of ground, of three rows each, were then laid out at the several distances, of 2 feet 6 inches, 2 feet 9 inches, 3 feet, 3 feet 3 inches, and 3 feet 6 inches, each parcel separated by an intermediate row, to prevent the necessity of resorting to an average on the outside rows, in calculating the product of the ground per acre. The distance between the hills in the row was, in all cases, equal to the distance between the rows of the same parcel; and in each parcel one row was to have three, one to have four, and the other to have five stalks in a hill. The rows, about twelve rods in length, were laid out, and the hills marked off, at exact distances, with little trouble, by means of a simply constructed gage. The corn planted was an early twelve rowed kind, called the Golden Sioux. Six to eight kernels were put in a hill, and the stalks afterwards pulled out to the requisite number; in all cases leaving the best ones standing, which gave some advantage in the selection, to the hills of smallest number. The intermediate rows, and those on either side, had generally about four or five stalks in a hill, with hills at distances to correspond nearly with their neighbors. In the selection of soil, manuring and cultivating, all were supposed to have an equal chance. The ground was kept level, and sowed with grass seed the last time of hoeing.

When harvested, the produce of each row was carefully weighed in the field, and noted down immediately, and seventy pounds of dry well ripened ears estimated to make a bushel of shelled corn.

The following table will show the order in which the rows were planted, and perhaps will exhibit the method pursued and the result, better than can be done by description; and also afford opportunity to detect any error that may have been admitted in the estimates.

(*For table see head of next column.*)

It will be seen in every case that the hills of three stalks produced less than those of four, and those of four less than those of five. In this view it may be considered as five experiments, all giving the same result, notwithstanding some of the hills occupied but about half the quantity of ground usually given them in our field culture.

No.	Distance.	Ground to each hill.	Hills per acre.	Hills in row.	Stalks per hill.	Product of row.	Produce of hill.	Shelled corn per acre.
1	2 f. 6 in.	6 ft. 3 in.	6970	80	3	47 lbs.	9 oz. 6¾ drms	54 bus. 44 lbs.
2	"	"	"	"	4	49 "	9 " 12¾ "	56 " "
3	"	"	"	"	5	52½ "	10¼ "	60 " "
4*	2 ft. 9 in.	7 ft. 6¾ in.	5760	72	3	48½ "	10 " 12¾ "	56 " "
5	"	"	"	"	4	53 "	11 " 12¾ "	41 " "
6	"	"	"	"	5	55 "	12 " 3¾ "	58 " "
7	3 ft.	9 ft.	4840	66	3	48 "	11 " 10¾ "	46 " "
8*	"	"	"	"	4	54½ "	13 " 3¾ "	53 " "
9	"	"	"	"	5	56 "	13 " 9¾ "	54 " "
10	3 ft. 3 in.	10 ft. 6¾ in.	4124	60	3	43 "	11 " 7¾ "	39 " "
11	"	"	"	"	4	48¼ "	12 " 15 "	44 " "
12*	"	"	"	"	5	55 "	14 " 10¾ "	50 " "
13	3 ft. 6 in.	12 ft. 3 in.	3556	57	3	46 "	12 " 14¾ "	35 " "
14	"	"	"	"	4	55 "	15 " 7 "	45 " "
15	"	"	"	"	5	56 "	15 " 11 "	46 " "
16*								
17								
18								
19								

* Intermediate or dividing rows.

The average of five rows, one from each parcel, is as follows, viz:

Three stalks in a hill, 46 bushels 14 lbs. per acre.
Four stalks in a hill, 52 bushels 42 lbs. " "
Five stalks in a hill, 54 bushels 20 lbs. " "

The difference of average between three and five stalks is 8 bushels 6 lbs. per acre.

It will be seen also, that in every instance but one, or eleven times in twelve, diminishing the distance between the hills increased the product of the ground. The average of each parcel is as follows, viz:

Three feet six inches between the hills gave 44 bushels 14 lbs. per acre.
Three feet three inches, 44 bu. 57 lbs. per acre.
Three feet, 51 bu. 49 lbs. " "
Two feet nine inches, 55 bu. 45 lbs. " "
Two feet six inches, 57 bu. 36 lbs. " "

The difference of product between the average of hills at 2 feet 6 inches, and that of hills at 3 feet 6 inches, is 13 bushels 22 lbs. per acre.

Row No. 17 had the least number of stalks per acre, and gave the smallest product, 38 bushels 18 lbs. The number of stalks in this row per acre, (for there was not one missing,) was probably equal to the number usually standing in our fields, and the product would be considered, in common seasons, a fair crop for land and manure of like quantity and quality. Row No. 3 had the largest number of stalks per acre, and gave the largest product, viz: 60 bushels 74 lbs. This difference appears to have been made by the difference in the number of stalks, as is evident from the fact that the produce of the other thirteen rows varied from these, and from each other in different degrees, somewhat according to the number of stalks, and distance of hills, with one exception. No. 14, with hills (of four stalks) at 3 feet 3 inches distant, gave 1 bushel 22 pounds less than No. 18 with hills (of four stalks) at 3 feet 6 inches distance. This exception to the general result is a case in point showing that the same crop is not always and in all cases to be expected even from the same soil, season, and mode of culture; and gives evidence, if such be wanted, that a single experiment should not be relied upon as fully establishing any rule or method of cultivation.

Row No. 17 gave a product equal to 22 bushels 56 pounds per acre more than Row No. 3, or, a gain of about sixty per cent., apparently by increasing the number of plants per acre. Perhaps a part of the gain, however, is only in appearance. Most likely a hill with five stalks would extend its roots in search of food somewhat farther than a hill with four or three stalks, and if so, among weaker neighbors it would occupy more than its allotted portion of ground, while they would occupy less than theirs. If this be a cause of part of the difference, it may be difficult to tell how much deduction should be made, (though probably whatever is made should be from the 8 bushels 6 pounds difference of product between three and five stalks,) but having the facts before you, Mr. Editor, you or your readers can guess as well as myself whether, after making a liberal allowance for that or any other supposable cause, there was not a large and substantial gain by increasing the number of stalks per acre.

That the gain would have been as great on all other soils, I am by no means prepared to say, indeed, on many I am confident it would not. I apprehend it is only rich and good soil, well adapted to the growth of corn, that will bear thick planting, and even then very much depends on the *kind* of corn; that of larger growth must have more distance. Cold land, perhaps, will not bear the shade of thick planting, and poor light land most certainly will not bear the exhaustion. Thick planted corn also suffers soonest and severest by drouth.

I have stated the case perhaps with more minuteness than may be thought necessary, and shall leave it with you, Mr Editor, to strike out all or any part, as you shall think best.

During the past year much has been said in the Farmer, by way of objection, to large corn cobs—a popular objection, surely; but will you tell us, Mr. Editor, why a large cob is not as good as a small one; or, what is about the same thing, why a long one is not as good as a short one, and whether we may not as well expect to raise beef without bones, as corn without cobs? I have supposed that the larger and longer the ears were the better, provided the corn was of good quality, and adapted to the seasons and soil; with these qualifications, far from having seen them too large, I have seldom thought them large enough, and should be very unwilling to assign them a limit. Indeed, I see not why the objections that can be made to large ears of corn should not be made to large ears of rye or wheat, or to the large long frames of "Improved Short Horns." But I may be mistaken; I may misapprehend the subject.

Yours respectfully,

William Clark, Jr.

Northampton, May, 1835.

[*By the Editor.*]

The above article cannot fail to prove of great utility to the practical farmer, and we think that Mr. Clark has rendered important services to the community of cultivators by making and publishing the results of the experiments detailed above.

Seed Corn.

THE subscriber has a quantity of the celebrated 12 rowed Dutton Corn, raised by J. Buel. The advantages of raising this corn are its prolific qualities, being easily made to yield from 70 to 80 bushels to the acre, and its early maturity, ripening in about 100 days from time of planting.

W. THORBURN, Seedsman,
347 N. Market-st. opposite Post Office.
Albany, Dec. 25.—j9

Robbins' Planting Machine.

WITH this Machine Corn, Beans, Peas, Broom Corn, Mangel Wurtzel, Turneps, Onions, and seeds of almost every description, can be planted with more system and correctness than can be done in the usual manner of planting with the hand and hoe. One man may easily plant five acres a day, placing the seeds any given distance apart, from two or more inches, and in rows two and a half feet apart.

Machines can be had by applying to Reynolds & Bateham, Rochester; C. N. Bement, Treasurer of the State Agricultural Society, Albany; Bushrod Buck, Lanesborough, Berkshire county, Mass.; and Daniel T. Buck, Lowville, Lewis county, agent and proprietor for making and vending said machines, at all of which places it is intended to keep a supply on hand

Lowville, Nov. 24, 1835. nov 28-6m